

House File 2328 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2328
BY COMMITTEE ON STATE
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2145)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to voter registration and voting by lowering
2 the age at which a person may register to vote and the age
3 at which a registered voter is eligible to vote in a primary
4 election and including effective date provisions.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 48A.5, subsection 2, paragraph c, Code
2 2016, is amended to read as follows:

3 c. (1) Be at least eighteen years of age. However,
4 for purposes of voting in the primary election, an eligible
5 elector shall be at least eighteen years of age on the date of
6 the respective general election or city election. Completed
7 registration forms shall be accepted from registrants who are
8 at least seventeen ~~and one-half~~ years of age; ~~however,~~. For
9 an election other than a primary election, the registration
10 shall not be effective until the registrant reaches the age
11 of eighteen. The commissioner of registration shall ensure
12 that the birth date shown on the registration form is at
13 least seventeen ~~and one-half~~ years earlier than the date the
14 registration is processed.

15 (2) A registrant who is at least seventeen and one-half
16 years of age and who will be eighteen by the date of a pending
17 election is a registered voter for the pending election for
18 purposes of chapter 53. For purposes of voting in a primary
19 election under chapter 53, a registrant who will be at least
20 eighteen years of age by the date of the respective general
21 election or city election is a registered voter for the pending
22 primary election.

23 Sec. 2. Section 48A.14, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code
24 2016, is amended to read as follows:

25 b. The challenged registrant is less than seventeen ~~and~~
26 ~~one-half~~ years of age.

27 Sec. 3. Section 48A.23, subsection 1, Code 2016, is amended
28 to read as follows:

29 1. At least twice during each school year, the board of
30 directors of each school district operating a high school and
31 the authorities in charge of each accredited nonpublic school
32 shall offer the opportunity to register to vote to each student
33 who is at least seventeen ~~and one-half~~ years of age.

34 Sec. 4. Section 48A.26, subsection 9, Code 2016, is amended
35 to read as follows:

1 9. When a person who is at least seventeen ~~and one-half~~
 2 years of age but less than eighteen years of age registers
 3 to vote, the commissioner shall maintain a record of the
 4 registration so as to clearly indicate that it will not take
 5 effect until the registrant's eighteenth birthday and that the
 6 person is registered and qualifies to vote at any election
 7 held on or after that date. However, for purposes of voting
 8 in a primary election, the registration shall take effect
 9 immediately if the person will be at least eighteen years of
 10 age on the date of the respective general election or city
 11 election.

12 Sec. 5. Section 48A.31, Code 2016, is amended to read as
 13 follows:

14 **48A.31 Deceased persons record.**

15 The state registrar of vital statistics shall transmit
 16 or cause to be transmitted to the state registrar of voters,
 17 once each calendar quarter, a certified list of all persons
 18 seventeen ~~and one-half~~ years of age and older in the state
 19 whose deaths have been reported to the bureau of vital records
 20 of the Iowa department of public health since the previous list
 21 of decedents was certified to the state registrar of voters.
 22 The list shall be submitted according to the specifications
 23 of the state registrar of voters. The commissioner shall, in
 24 the month following the end of a calendar quarter, run the
 25 statewide voter registration system's matching program to
 26 determine whether a listed decedent was registered to vote in
 27 the county and shall immediately cancel the registration of any
 28 person named on the list of decedents.

29 Sec. 6. Section 49.79, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code 2016,
 30 is amended to read as follows:

31 **b.** The For an election other than a primary election, the
 32 challenged person is less than eighteen years of age as of the
 33 date of the election at which the person is offering to vote.
 34 For a primary election, the challenged person will be less than
 35 eighteen years of age on the date of the respective general

1 election or city election.

2 Sec. 7. Section 49.81, subsection 4, paragraph a, Code 2016,
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 a. (1) The individual envelopes used for each provisional
5 ballot cast pursuant to subsection 1 shall have space for the
6 voter's name, date of birth, and address and shall have printed
7 on them the following:

8 I am a United States citizen, at least eighteen years of age
9 or, for purposes of voting in a primary election, I will be
10 at least eighteen years of age on the date of the respective
11 general election or the city election. I believe I am a
12 registered voter of this county and I am eligible to vote in
13 this election.

14

15 (signature of voter) (date)

16 (2) The following information is to be provided by the
17 precinct election official:

18 Reason for casting provisional ballot:

19

20

21

22 (signature of
23 precinct election
24 official)

25 Sec. 8. Section 280.9A, subsection 3, Code 2016, is amended
26 to read as follows:

27 3. At least twice during each school year, the board of
28 directors of each local public school district operating a
29 high school and the authorities in charge of each accredited
30 nonpublic school operating a high school shall offer the
31 opportunity to register to vote to each student who is at least
32 seventeen ~~and one-half~~ years of age, as required by section
33 48A.23.

34 Sec. 9. Section 602.8102, subsection 15, Code 2016, is
35 amended to read as follows:

1 15. Monthly, notify the county commissioner of registration
2 and the state registrar of voters of persons seventeen and
3 ~~one-half~~ years of age and older who have been convicted of a
4 felony during the preceding calendar month or persons who at
5 any time during the preceding calendar month have been legally
6 declared to be a person who is incompetent to vote as that term
7 is defined in [section 48A.2](#).

8 Sec. 10. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect January 1,
9 2017.

10	EXPLANATION
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11 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
12 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

13 This bill relates to voter registration and voting.
14 The bill allows a registered voter who is not 18 years of
15 age to vote in a primary election if the voter will be at least
16 18 years of age on the date of the general election. The bill
17 also allows an otherwise eligible elector to register to vote
18 at the age of 17. Current law allows an eligible elector who
19 is at least 17 and one-half years of age to register to vote,
20 but, except for purposes of requesting and voting an absentee
21 ballot, the registration does not become effective until the
22 registrant turns 18 years of age. The bill makes additional
23 conforming changes.

24 The bill takes effect January 1, 2017.